

October xx, 2006

Doug Failing, District Director
California Department of Transportation
District 7
100 South Main Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Re: The Beach Nourishment and Highway/Rail Maintenance Opportunities

Dear Mr. Krumholz:

The Beach Erosion Authority for Clean Oceans and Nourishment (BEACON) is a joint powers agency tasked with beach erosion and storm damage protection and clean ocean water enhancement activities in the Santa Barbara and Ventura County areas. While our jurisdiction extends throughout the two counties, our focus is on the littoral zone from the Santa Ynez River to Point Mugu.

We have established the South Central Coast Beach Restoration Project, also known as the Opportunistic Beach Fill Program. This program has established pre-approves regulatory permits from necessary agencies to allow the deposit of beach quality material on selected beach receiver sites when the material becomes available, either through public works projects, flood control maintenance or other development projects.

The BEACON Board has selected Goleta Beach (Santa Barbara), Ash Avenue (Carpinteria), Oil Piers (Sea Cliff, Ventura County), Surfer's Point (Ventura) and Port Hueneme beach as sites that have been permitted to receive beach fill material (see enclosed map).

There may be a commonality of interests with Caltrans in the use and furtherance of this program. There are many instances where Caltrans has significant quantities of excess material from road maintenance, landslide reduction or new construction where there is no nearby adequate site to dispose of this material. There is a strong possibility that such Caltrans material would be useful in our beach fill program.

Throughout much of the coastline of our area, the highways are either near or directly adjacent to the beaches, which would make the hauling of excess material from construction very financially attractive to Caltrans. Also, the lack of the formerly wide beach widths forces Caltrans to reinforce with high-maintenance rock revetments. A wide sandy beach would protect the adjacent roadway and be much preferable from an aesthetic and environmental standpoint.



A California Joint Powers Agency

Member Agencies

City of Carpinteria
City of Goleta
City of Oxnard
City of Port Hueneme
City of San Buenaventura
City of Santa Barbara
County of Santa Barbara
County of Ventura

Santa Barbara Address:

105 East Anapamu, Suite 201
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

Ventura Address:

501 Poli St.
P.O. Box 99
Ventura, CA 93001

Telephone:

(805) 662-6890

Facsimile:

(805) 568-2982

Email:

Beacon.ca.gov

Internet:

<http://www.beacon.ca.gov>

We want to offer you the opportunity to use this mutually beneficial program. It will help both in our beach erosion prevention programs and will aid Caltrans in both maintenance operations and enhance mitigation of highway projects.

Before any upland material can be deposited onto approved beaches, the material must contain a sufficiently high percentage of sand and be uncontaminated. Also, the permits require pre-testing and surveying that require time and funds to complete. We would appreciate being contacted as soon as possible should any opportunities arise that Caltrans is interested in pursuing under this program.

I am enclosing a summary of the project and other background information. Please let me know if I can answer any questions on this. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Brian Brennan
Executive Director